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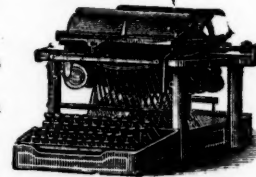
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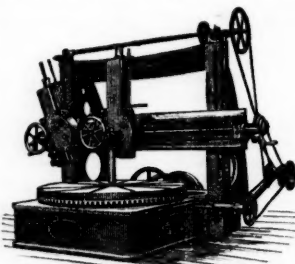
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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

MR. CLEVELAND follows up his appointment of Mr. Matthews in the District of Columbia, by a similar appointment of a postmaster at Petersburg, after the rejection of his name by the Senate. The view we expressed last week of Mr. Matthews's case is one which seems to commend itself to the good sense of the American people generally, so far as they have looked at the matter in the light of the Constitution and the laws. We have noticed in several quarters an expression of the conviction that loyalty to the spirit and intention of the Constitution would make such appointments impossible. The President is authorized to fill offices not otherwise provided for in the laws, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate." This certainly implies that while the Senate has not the initiative in the matter, it is co-ordinate with the President in filling these offices. To fill one of them and keep it filled by a man whom the Senate rejects, is to nullify the constitutional authority of the Senate.

It is rumored that Mr. Bayard will resign his place at the head of the State Department. If there should prove to be any truth in this, it means that he fears, as the result of the present defeat, that the seat in the Senate which he bequeathed to Mr. Gray cannot be secured for the next six years for the latter gentleman. The present term expires next March, and the Legislature now to be chosen will elect for the next full one. Mr. Lore, the present Representative in Congress, wants Mr. Gray's place, and it is his allies who have triumphed in the nomination of Mr. Biggs. The Secretary may think that he can do for himself what he could not do for Mr. Gray, and that he had better leave his troublesome duties in the State Department for the more congenial work of the Senate. So far as the country is concerned, it would be unreasonable to say a word to detain him from this change,—unless indeed Mr. Cleveland should replace him by some one still less competent.

THE more Mr. Bayard's attitude in the Cutting case is contemplated, the worse it looks for the Secretary. He is a States Rights Democrat; but in his treatment of the federal republic of Mexico, he has chosen to set a precedent which may prove exceedingly awkward for this country. He has ignored the limitations upon national authority which the national constitution imposes, and has demanded of the authorities at the capital that they shall interfere with the legal processes of a free State. It is true that Mr. Bayard may insist that somebody must be held responsible when outrages under forms of law are committed upon our citizens, and that as he cannot direct our minister to hold diplomatic communication with a Mexican state, he must address the President of the Republic. But just as true it is that Prince Bismarck or Lord Salisbury would find the same curious irresponsibility imbedded in our own system, and might make Mr. Bayard's action a reason for ignoring those restrictions upon their responsibility of our national government which are so dear to all true Democrats.

That Cutting was not arrested, imprisoned, tried and sentenced merely for acts committed on Texas soil, is now perfectly clear. The official publication of the document, and the evidence of the case puts this beyond doubt. It is distinctly charged that he distributed copies of the Texas newspaper containing the libel on Mexican soil, and the mention of his having it printed in Texas does not invalidate this fact or make him unworthy of punishment. Throughout the whole transaction he behaved in the most rascally and irritating fashion, and has acquired no claim to anybody's sympathy. At the same time, we cannot afford to concede the claim of any foreign power to jurisdiction over our citizens

for acts performed on our soil, whether the persons involved be called O'Donovan Rossa, or Cutting, or by some other name. If some of our dynamite braggarts should be arrested in England, we may look to see Mr. Bayard as zealous in defence of their rights as in this case.

THE President, before fleeing to the Adirondacks, filed his reasons at the State Department for his ten "pocket vetoes," including that of the Surplus resolution. What he says is that—

"This resolution involves so much and is of such serious import that I do not deem it best to discuss it at this time. It is not approved because I believe it to be unnecessary, and because I am by no means convinced that its mere passage and approval at this time may not endanger and embarrass the successful and useful operations of the Treasury Department and impair the confidence which the people should have in the management of the finances of the Government."

It can hardly be said this throws much light on the subject, except as it signifies that Mr. Cleveland would rather have his Secretary of the Treasury hoard as much as he sees fit, and pay out as little as he pleases. This is not what we were assured in 1884 a Democratic Administration would do, and it is not what Congress by an enormous majority declared ought to be done. But Mr. Cleveland is of the sort of Presidents that think they can run things themselves infinitely better than the representatives of the people. Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, also took that view.

THE types last week made us do an injustice to Mr. Magone, the new collector of the port of New York. We meant to say he had made a record in fighting the Canal Ring, but we were made to say he made it in the Ring.

THE convention of Irish Nationalists has been in session in Chicago during the week, but we are obliged to write in advance of its definite action. There has been a double struggle going forward among its membership. There has been, in the first place, a desire to depose Mr. Egan from office, in punishment of his support of Mr. Blaine in 1884. Mr. Egan is falsely accused when it is said that he threw himself into the arena of party politics, or employed the machinery and prestige of the League in the interests of the Republican party. Like Mr. Sullivan, who preceded him and who resigned that he might have his hands free in politics, Mr. Egan did his share to keep party politics out of the League. He made no utterance of his preference until he was assailed by these very opponents, and was obliged to assert his right to have and hold his own convictions on public questions. And it certainly was neither a crime nor a blunder for him to see the folly of Irishmen fighting British rule in Ireland while voting year after year to bring the land of their adoption into industrial subjection to England.

The other struggle is between the pronounced and the moderate parties with regard to the future policy of the Irish party in Parliament. Mr. Davitt argues for moderation and for following the lead of Mr. Gladstone and doing nothing to alienate the English Liberals. Mr. Patrick Ford maintains that there is nothing to lose and everything to gain by continuing the policy of obstruction and aggression by which all that has been gained was gained. The decided Nationalists are generally of Mr. Ford's mind. They have stood aside to keep out of Mr. Parnell's way so long as he effected a suspense of Parliament by his obstructive policy. But they are not willing to continue their self-suppression if the Home Rule party in Parliament is to relapse into a faction of the Liberal party, and to be bartered and managed by Liberal leaders on the outlook for a majority.

THE opposition to Mr. Edmunds in Vermont has not ceased with the choice of candidates for the State Senate. It now is carried into the town meetings for the nomination of representatives, who are eight times as numerous in the State Legislature as the Senators. If this were a spontaneous movement against Mr. Edmunds on the part of the Republican voters of the state, we should have nothing to say but much to regret. But there are not wanting indications that it has been worked up from outside. The party may well protest against all such attempts to array one part of it against another. If the Republican party shall go into the campaign of 1888 as divided as into that of 1884, it will come out as it did in 1884, and will deserve to do so.

EX-GOVERNOR LONG, of Massachusetts, announces that he is a candidate for the seat in the Senate now occupied by Mr. Dawes. He and the present Senator—who has no objection to being re-elected—are warm personal friends, and we believe that both are large-minded enough to be rivals without ceasing to be friends. Mr. Dawes has been of service to the public in the Senate, and especially he has labored with intelligence and earnestness in behalf of our Indian wards. But he is approaching an age at which any man can retire gracefully from public life, and Mr. Long is a man whom any state would be proud to have as its representative in the national Senate. Whichever way the decision may fall, the State of Massachusetts will have no reason to blush for his choice.

Mr. Long has expressed his views recently as to the coming nomination of a Republican for the presidency. He says that while perhaps Mr. Blaine has the largest following of any Republican aspirant, conservative Republicans think it will be advisable to go West for the candidate. His own preferences are for Mr. Sherman; but we suggest that if the party is to go West, it will do well to go a little farther, and yet not so far as Illinois.

WE may congratulate the Republican party on the withdrawal of Gen. Keifer from his candidacy for a Republican nomination to Congress in Ohio. It is to such men as he, and to him perhaps, more than to any other single man, that the Republican party owes that loss of the public confidence which deprived them of the control of the House. So long as the party was in adversity in Ohio we heard little of Gen. Keifer and his aspirations. Now that it has got into the sunshine again, Mr. Keifer creeps out to feel the sun and look for a lift back to public life. It shows that his former constituents have learnt the lessons of adversity, that he has been obliged to abandon his efforts. His reelection would have been a calamity to the Republican party.

THE Prohibitionists have reached the highest point of absurdity and ingratitude by nominating a third ticket in Maine. In that State the Republican Party is a prohibitionist party. Not only has it maintained the Maine law, to whose operations the third party elsewhere point with more complacency than the facts warrant, but in 1884 it imbedded the principle in the Constitution of the State. Enforcement is in the hands of the county and municipal governments, which the friends of the principle might hold responsible. But it is a State ticket they have nominated, with the possible result of handing the State over to the Democrats, who are the worst enemies of their principle.

This may serve as a warning to the Republican party in other States, that nothing will ever satisfy the Prohibitionists. They always will charge the unavoidable failure of the law upon the want of ampler legislative power or of greater executive vigilance. They always will be demanding fresh legislation, and threatening disaster to the party in power if it does not concede it. They are as insatiable as the horse-leech's daughters, which cry "Give, give!"

THE Democratic Convention of Pennsylvania, which sat on Wednesday, has not made a very strong front for its party in this year's contest. The control was substantially exercised by Mr. Randall, and the most potent influence was that of United States

offices, present and prospective. The candidate for Governor, Mr. Chauncey F. Black, the present Lieutenant-Governor of the State, represented the office-holding faction, and incurs the hostility of a large element of the party, who are dissatisfied with the manner in which Mr. Cleveland has handed over Pennsylvania "patronage" to Mr. Randall's use and enjoyment. This latter element desired to nominate ex-Senator Wallace, but had not the strength to overcome Mr. Black's personal following and the prospect of post-office and other places to be enjoyed by hungry delegates or their friends.

It will be seen later how much the Democrats can do toward pulling themselves together, but the present consequences of the convention are apparently all injurious to their strength. The Wallace men may profess acquiescence, but it cannot be hearty, and the vote for the Prohibition candidate for Governor, presuming it to be Mr. Wolfe, is certain to be swollen from the Democratic side, especially as the platform adopted contains no allusion to the sale of liquor, but avoids the question entirely. In one respect the resolutions are good enough: they pledge the party to the enforcement of the provisions of the Constitution respecting railroads. The tariff plank is made up out of that framed at Chicago in 1884, and is therefore intended simply to satisfy both sides, without interfering with the views of Free Trade Democrats. Mr. Black himself, though supported by the Randall faction, is not a Protectionist at all, and the evasiveness of the platform is not too great to meet his case.

THE liquor dealers of this city showed a spasm of sense in their meeting at Industrial Hall, when they applauded the enforcement of the laws as likely to diminish the evils which strengthen the Prohibitionists, and called for the closing of places of amusement on Sunday, as required by the Law of 1794. If they will observe the course of things in other States, they will see enough to cause them serious anxiety. If both parties were equally affected by the rise of a Prohibition party, they might ignore its rapid growth in Pennsylvania. But the fact that the Republicans lose rather than the Democrats, makes its growth ominous, especially in a state so heavily Republican as Pennsylvania. Should Gen. Beaver be defeated by the Prohibition bolt this time, the inducement to the Republicans to take up this question will be almost overwhelming. And while Prohibition will not suppress the liquor traffic, it will make it a lawless traffic and much more degrading to those who are engaged in it than it now is.

IN Delaware, a political tempest which had raged for weeks with increasing violence, culminated at Dover, on Tuesday, in one tremendous blast. The storm was intense, because as Delaware has about the same population as Lancaster County, people who fight each other on so narrow a field must fight face to face and knee to knee. The situation, simply stated, is that the Republicans having resolved to do nothing this year, (on account of the State system of fraud and disfranchisement), the two Democratic factions, headed respectively by Mr. Bayard and Mr. Saulsbury, fell upon each other with great fury, and exhausted all the known forms of bad politics in mutual injury. The result is that Mr. Bayard is beaten, and the candidate of the Saulsbury faction, Mr. Benjamin T. Biggs, is nominated for Governor. The only opponent he will have at the election is a Prohibitionist candidate, but if the temperance Democrats of Delaware,—of whom there are really a good many,—have any sort of back-bone, it is hard to see how they can "stick to the party" this year, after all the "saloon" work which has been done in it during this disgraceful contest.

THE likelihood that there will be Democratic votes for Prohibition candidates in Pennsylvania and Delaware is increased to certainty in some other states, notably New Jersey. In fact Prohibition begins to "cut both ways" in many localities, and there are signs that the Democratic wet-nurses who so long attended

assiduously upon it are beginning to give it a less degree of anxious care. In Pennsylvania it is hard to see how any temperance voters, who have been inclined to Prohibition but still have voted for Republican candidates, can join the Prohibitionist party at present. They are confronted with these facts: (1) The Republican Convention resolved on submitting to the people for their decision a prohibiting constitutional amendment; (2) the Democratic Convention not only is silent on the subject, but is well known to be opposed to such a step; (3) every vote withdrawn from the Republicans is a vote to put in control the opponents of what the voter professes to want. If a case can be made any plainer than this, we should be pleased to see it stated.

A CURIOUS, and for the Knights of Labor most unfortunate struggle, has just come to an end in New York. At the extraordinary convention of the Knights held in Cleveland this spring, it will be remembered that an internal struggle took place between a strongly centralizing party and certain Trades' Unions, who professed to retain some powers of self-government. Among these Unions that of the Cigar-makers was the most aggressive, and it was evident that the victory of the centralizers at Cleveland merely transferred the struggle to another arena. In New York the battle has been fought out, and the Knights have been defeated, although they had the support of the employers, who locked out those of their men who decided to obey the Cigar-makers' Union rather than the Knights. The Union held out so firmly against their combined forces, that the employers were forced at last to come to terms with it, and to abandon the alliance with the Knights.

This struggle between rival labor organizations for the control of the working forces, marks a new stage in the history of organized labor. Heretofore there has been no such division of the forces in the contest with capital; for the future this may be expected, and it cannot fail to be an element of weakness. Among workmen themselves have arisen differences of view as to the proper method of improving the condition of their class. The Knights in the main stand for the more moderate and reasonable treatment of the problem, while the old Trades' Unions, in America at least, are for the more heroic methods. Hence the preference shown by employers for the former, which in this case availed them nothing. The average American workman is not yet ready for too much reasonableness. He will continue in a fighting mood until laws made for his protection are enforced, and laws made for his oppression are repealed, as in England. The question of capital and labor in America is still in the stage it occupied in England before the repeal of the laws against "conspiracy in restraint of trade."

AMONG the orators of the Chautauqua Assembly this year were Dr. Phillips Brooks and Mr. James G. Blaine. Dr. Brooks discoursed of the relation of life to literature, and showed that while at some periods literature shows more vigor than does the personal and social life of men, ours is an epoch in which these conditions are reversed. Life is too powerful for literature, and is bursting the old bottles of literary tradition. Taste grows too catholic for the literary conventions the past has handed down to us. We decline to be told by the critics what should be our range of interest in things human. We begin to find a zest in the study of what they thought common and vulgar. And this impulse is struggling with the literary forms of the past, not yet having managed to evolve forms suited to the new era. From this we infer that Dr. Brooks does not regard Mr. Whitman's "corduroy" verse as the poetry of Democracy and of the future.

MR. BLAINE spoke of college education, criticising sharply what he thought its faults. That on which he laid most stress seems to us quite beside the point, and likely to do harm. He thought the college course took too much of a young man's time. To prove this he drew a picture of a young American entering

college at 18, graduating at 22, running off to Europe to finish his studies at a German or English university, and returning after two or three years to take up the study of his profession. But unhappily for himself the average young American does not wait for his eighteenth year, or even his seventeenth, before he enters college. He enters at sixteen, fifteen or even fourteen, when he generally is quite unfit for advanced study. In some colleges the age of admission is higher, but this is not because a standard of age is fixed. It is because the standard for admission in point of requirements is much too high for boys of fourteen or sixteen to reach. And yet that standard is absurdly low as compared with the requirements of the best European universities.

Nor is it true that the average young American wastes any years in Europe after graduating at home. It is only a small percentage who go to Europe, and the country would gain, not lose, by its increase. It consists mainly of two elements,—the very rich, who go mainly for the fashion's sake, and those who look forward to a career as a college professor at home. The former are not hurt by going to Europe, as they look forward to no professional career. The latter are greatly helped by it, and it would be a good thing if far more of them were able to study in Europe.

We the more regret that Mr. Blaine saw fit to make this complaint, as it seems to us to minister to a popular prejudice against college education. Nothing has worked harder against the elevation of the standard of the higher education in America, than the eagerness of young men to be earning their own living as soon as they attain their majority, and the expectation on the part of their elders that they should do so. Of course in many cases this is unavoidable, and necessity knows no law. But in a growing number of instances it is simply the money-making instinct which wins a lamentable victory over higher considerations.

THER seems to be no doubt that a poisoning monomania takes possession of some minds, after one escape from detection in the use of the deadly drug. Mme. Brinvilliers and Lydia Sherman are conclusive instances of this. But the disposition to see a monomaniac of this class in every person, and especially in every woman, who is accused of this form of murder, needs to be guarded against. It may be that the Mrs. Robinson, who has been arrested at Somerville, Mass., for the murder of her son, did kill off all her family and try her hand on a Methodist picnic besides. But it is not impossible that she did nothing of the kind.

When Mrs. Wharton was arrested some years ago in Baltimore on a similar charge, the report of her exploits in this line flew thick and fast. The city was so filled with prejudice against her that it was found advisable to change the venue to Annapolis, and on its trial the evidence of her having ever killed anyone was entirely wanting. The case for the prosecution rested entirely on a stomach analysis, made by a professor of chemistry who was quite unfit for such work. His criminating proofs proved nothing, and the jury found a just verdict in acquitting her. There are not half a dozen toxicologists in this country who are competent to investigate such a case, and three of those are in this city. Yet the first thing done generally is to carry the supposed proofs of poisoning to some chemical professor, who knows about very little more of toxicology than he does of quaternions.

It would be a poor comment on the administration of the law of interment in Massachusetts, if the symptoms in all these other cases had been so indicative of arsenical poisoning, and no inquiry had been made in any. As Massachusetts has got rid of coroners and their juries, and puts these matters into the hands of expert legal officers, such neglect is the less probable.

"POOR'S MANUAL FOR 1886" shows that the railroads of the country increased but 2.4 per cent. last year, that their gross earnings per mile decreased 5.8 per cent., although the freight they carried increased about 10 per cent. Their gross earnings of the year were nearly 10 per cent. less; their net earnings nearly 3.5 per cent. less; the dividend on share capital 2.02 per cent. against 2.48 per cent. the year before.

In the whole world there are 291,522 miles of railroad; in the United States 123,110, not including elevated roads. In the rest of the Western continent there are 26,158 miles. In the Western continent the mileage exceeds that of Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia by 8,014 miles; this country has over 82 per cent. of what is on this continent.

The figures show that the roads have been doing more work at a less freight, and that the increase of railroads has been checked by this fact. At the same time the bondholders have been getting more by eleven millions, and the stockholders less by nearly sixteen millions than they did the year before.

THE American Bankers' Association held its annual convention this year in Boston. Mr. Gage of Chicago did not show as much wisdom in his opening address as did his predecessor in office, Mr. Coe of New York. He made the speech needlessly offensive by an attack upon our protective tariff, by way of illustration, although a large proportion of the gentlemen who had gathered to hear him believe in that policy. The Social Science Association was all but wrecked by a similar abuse of the president's chair by Mr. David A. Wells. If the Bankers' Association is to be run as a Free Trade coterie, there are communities in this part of the country which will much prefer the absence of their bankers from its meetings.

On the currency question Mr. Gage gave voice to the prejudices of his class. He assumed that there were but two positions, that of those who wished to continue the coinage of standard dollars, and that of the believers in a single gold standard. This greatly simplified the business of throwing the weight of his address against silver, but did not light up his candor to any great extent. And it gave a weapon into the hands of those who are fighting for the free coinage of silver at the present rates, by seeming to show that the abandonment of silver is the only practicable alternative.

Toward the close of his address he referred to Lord Macaulay's lugubrious prophecy of an age of pinching want and consequent unrest for the United States, and insisted that it deserves from us more attention than it has received. In this Mr. Gage showed only the usual inability of Chicagoans and New Yorkers to understand that their own city is neither the United States nor a fair sample of it. We are just as far as ever from the era in which a government of the United States is to be elected by a constituency which has had a scanty breakfast and does not know where it is to get its dinner. There are, it is true, minor forces which are tending to take us in that direction, and one of these is the unhappy restrictions upon the freedom of bank issues which characterizes our national banking system, and which makes New York and Chicago usurers in their relations to the less developed parts of the South and West.

LORD SALISBURY has no cure for Irish evils but "the vigorous enforcement of the laws." But laws can be enforced only when they are the expression of the will of the people to whom they are applied. A whole community cannot be coerced into obedience, unless by such means as Russia employs in Poland, and such means have not been at the disposal of any English government at least since 1798. The English have gone as far as they dared or could in that direction, but they have not been able to enforce any laws except those which the real but unrecognized rulers of Ireland chose to have enforced. There is sense, if also wickedness, in the proposal of *The Spectator* to begin coercion by provoking rebellion. If the Irish were foolish enough to rebel in a time of peace, and to awaken the tiger in the British voter as India awakened it in 1857, a coercion policy might be made practical and effective. The country might be flooded with troops; the slightest provocation might be used as an excuse for bloodshed as in 1798; Irishmen might be massacred on the streets or hung without trial before their own doors, or flogged on their stomachs till their bowels gushed out, as under

the rule of Castlereagh. And this terrorism would have the effect of dampening resistance for a time, if also of deepening Irish hatred and the world's disgust with English rule in Ireland. But coercion without provocation to rebellion is poor policy.

It might be thought that Lord Salisbury regarded the Orange North as the present centre of disturbance, which called for his most vigorous attention. Not at all: the reign of terror and bloodshed in Belfast, where his friends are perpetrating slaughter of the Queen's subjects and destruction of their property, is a mere flea-bite compared with the great conspiracy of the Nationalists to restore Ireland her Parliament. He deliberately weighs the one against the other in his speech at the Mansion House, and pronounces the action of the Nationalists the worse evil of the two. As the attitude of the Nationalists since the election has been worthy of all praise, and the instances of agrarian outrage have been few, isolated and quite disconnected with political agitation, this estimate admits of but one construction. It is that murder and plunder on the part of the loyalists is less offensive than hostility to British rule even when accompanied by a submission to law. The marquis is like those statesmen before the war, who saw in every anti-slavery pamphlet a crime against the union, but were not offended by riot and arson in Northern cities, nor by the murder of anti-slavery men in the South.

LORD R. CHURCHILL has undertaken the preparation of a bill which will "satisfy all moderate Irishmen." Lord Randolph is making the mistake of the dog who undertook to jump over a well at two jumps. He assumes the existence of a middle element which does not exist. There are no moderate Irishmen. There are Irishmen who wish to maintain the British connection as it is, and to reduce the country to the level of a province of Great Britain. And there are Irishmen who wish to restore to the country self-government such as it had before the Union. But there are no Irishmen who wish for or will accept with any thanks an intermediate measure, creating either a national or provincial councils with power over water and gas mains. There are no Irishmen who wish any such arrangement, or who will regard it as a solution of any existing problem. The fact that direct government by the Imperial Parliament is an awkward, clumsy and costly arrangement as regard small local questions, is the very least of the reasons for asking for Home Rule. That is asked because Ireland is a nation with the right to control her own destinies, and to rid herself of alien rule. In Horace Bigelow's phrase, Lord Randolph

Tries to coax an earthquake with a bun.

As we foretold, the Tories are more open to a re-consideration of the Silver question than were the Liberals. The Salisbury ministry has agreed to appoint a commission to consider the whole problem of the currency, and of course to discuss the propriety of remonetizing silver. The heavy losses the Indian exchequer has sustained through the recent rapid decline in the gold price of that metal, must have done its share to bring about this decision. For some years past silver seemed likely to hold its own, but recent events have put it at a much greater disadvantage as compared with gold. Our standard dollars were worth about 93 cents in gold when they first were coined; they now are worth only 72 cents. This increasing discrepancy between the two metals is due to rapid change in the value of both. The bullion in a silver dollar is worth—as compared with commodities generally—something less than it was worth two decades ago. The bullion in a gold dollar has gained in purchasing power at least as much as the other has lost. And whatever tends to throw the world of commerce upon its inadequate supply of gold as the only material for coinage, must help to force up the value of gold as compared with commodities generally. Thus far the United States is the only great monetary power which has set itself to counteract this tendency. The results of our efforts merely prove that we are unable single-handed to maintain the credit of silver. It proves nothing as to the effi-

ciency or inefficiency of an international agreement for that purpose. Thus far England has been the chief obstacle to such an agreement. This commission on the currency is the first sign of her return to a sounder and broader view of the problem.

WAR SCHEMES AND WAR ARMAMENT.

IT is the remark of a Southern newspaper,—intending to say a sharp thing,—that in the war with Mexico men from the South did the fighting, while men from the North did the running. Perhaps somebody in this part of the country may be offended at the “thrust,” but we should hope not. The Southern editor does not tell the truth, to be sure, but he indicates a fact of very large dimensions bearing upon the present situation. The plan to affront and rob Mexico, which came to a head in 1846, was indeed a Southern pro-slavery job, resisted by the North from the time its character came to be understood. To the war of 1846 the intelligence of the Free States never gave a willing consent, and the recent candid explanations of General Grant show not only how a young officer felt who was sent upon the scandalous errand, but indicate even how the two commanders of the American armies regarded it.

That there is yet amongst us the temper of 1846 is unfortunately true. There is still an element that would like to despoil a weak neighbor, that would like to bring a money job to rich fruition even by means of war, and that would think it glorious to put some thousands of other people to the sword. But in the forty years since Buena Vista this element, happily, has relatively diminished. The Slave Power no longer cracks its whip. Southern newspapers now speak simply and truly in regard to the wickedness and foolishness of picking a new quarrel with Mexico, and in the North the doughface press that once abjectly echoed the plantation formula is happily almost extinct. It is hardly possible that a new war on the Rio Grande could now be set on foot by the United States, unless Mexico were scandalously disregardful of her international obligations. That perception of public duty which resisted manfully the progress and development of the Texas iniquity, from 1830 to 1845, not only exists now but is in substantial control of the country.

All this we say while mindful of the manner in which Mr. Bayard approached the El Paso case, a month ago. We do not overlook his “demand” for the surrender of Cutting, or his misapprehension and misstatement of the facts in relation to Cutting’s circulation of his second libel on the Mexican side, or his mischievous resolutions which the House laid aside, or his general inclination to assume the Texas attitude, the pattern of which was set by that model executive Governor Ireland. That Mr. Bayard set out in this business in the old way, and was minded to take up the “hustling” of Mexico about where Mr. Nicholas P. Trist laid it down, forty years ago, seems clear enough. Mr. Bayard is a Southern man at bottom. He is rooted in the ideas which ruled the United States from 1830 to 1861. Naturally enough he began at once, as the Slave Power statesmen of 1846 would do, were they awakened from their slumbers, to bully our Southern neighbor, and if the conditions of to-day were like those of old, we should by this time be gathering troops along the Rio Grande.

That there is nothing of this, that Mr. Cleveland goes to the New York woods, the Secretary of War sets off in one direction, and the Secretary of the Navy in another, for their summer vacations, is due to the simple fact that the mediæval spirit does not now dominate the country, and that the Secretary of State, not having created a state of war at the outset, has begun to appreciate the fact.

But there are some other serious reflections pertinent to this business. How could any sane American talk seriously of a war with any country, in our present condition? Doubtless those who would like to jump upon Mexico imagine that she could not possibly strike back. But even this is not so certain. Would not, by any possibility, some stronger nation aid Mexico? Could she en-

list no one with a naval force in her behalf? In the whole world is there not a nation having an armored ship of the highest class, carrying half a dozen guns of the greatest power, that would join with the Mexicans? If so, the rush toward Paso del Norte which Governor Ireland was encouraging would have been an act of the greatest rashness. For we dare not now engage in war with any country that has a ship capable of ravaging our coast or bombarding our great sea-shore cities. A single vessel of such a class as several nations have,—and we have not,—must halt us on the way to war. Mexico herself has none, but even Chili has several. Did the Secretary of State bethink himself of this? Or did the Secretary of the Navy need to call his attention to it? Did Mr. Whitney candidly say that he has no ships of war adequate to modern conditions, and did Mr. Endicott explain with equal candor that the forts are whitewashed shells, and their cannon antiquated and useless? Probably some such explanations occurred: certainly they were pertinent. At the juncture when it was proposed to have the nation undertake an aggressive war, it was desirable that we should all fully understand that we are in no way prepared to defend ourselves, if seriously attacked.

Nothing, indeed, could be more grotesque than our situation, if, unhappily, the mediæval temper were yet in control of our people, and it were practicable to re-enact the Texas proceeding of 1846. But the grotesqueness of the situation would be for the appreciation of outside observers; the shame would be for ourselves. The disgrace of vamping about war when we dare threaten only the weak need not be dwelt upon. And never before were the elements of the shame so conspicuously great. In the earlier days we had no such cities to be laid under contribution by an enemy’s cannon, and if our armament was simple and scanty, the armaments of the world were in nearer relation to ours. But now, unpossessed of a single weapon such as the warfare of great nations would employ upon the water, we must yield to our equals, and avoid offending our inferiors. And it was under such circumstances that it was apparently for a while intended to bring on a war quarrel with Mexico! What a spectacle we might have made in the face of mankind: what a chapter of shame we might have written in history! Can we imagine a rich nation, ambitious of leading the world’s march, first neglecting every measure of defence, then pottering over the claim of a right from a vigorous neighbor, and next turning to bully a supposedly weak one? And if so, can we grasp the shame of that nation, if the weak neighbor by any force of her own or any aid of allies, should reach the vacant places in the aggressor’s armor, and deal him a deadly blow? It is appalling to think that from such dishonor we may just have had a hair-breadth escape.

A BANKING SYSTEM FOR IRELAND.

THE government of Lord Salisbury is reported to be considering a measure of financial reform for Ireland which if carried out would be one of the most salutary changes possible for that country consistently with the Tory pledges against Home Rule. It is said, and apparently on authority, that they contemplate an extension of the Scotch banking system to Ireland. Short of a tariff to protect and develop Irish manufactures, they could confer no greater benefit on Ireland than this. It is one of the misfortunes of the country that its banks, like those of America, have been constructed after an English model. The English banking system is fitted only to a country whose economic conditions resemble those of England. In a country where agriculture is less important than commerce and manufactures, it is not so fatal a mistake if the banks refuse to lend money on land. But in Ireland there is neither commerce nor manufactures to furnish the sort of credit demanded by the banks. As a consequence the Irish banks are depositants for the scanty savings of the Irish farmers and tradespeople, to be sent over to London for investment. So much has this become the trend of business in the Irish banks, that even when efforts are made to set up manufactures or the like, the banks—as is shown in the testimony taken by Sir Eardley Wil-

mot's committee of last year—will do nothing in the way of accommodating these new enterprises. They prefer the safe and beaten track of business with the London banks, to more remunerative and perhaps more venturesome business at home.

The business done by the Scotch banks is purely local. They are not discount houses, except so far as some city banks have imitated English methods. They lend money in the shape of small notes on the joint bond of three creditors. Farmers as well as traders or manufacturers are accepted as bondsmen. The bond specifies the maximum that may be borrowed of the bank, but the signer pays only for the amount he actually uses. As the bank looks to the two endorsers in case the principal fails to pay, it has extremely few bad debts, and its customers are arranged in groups which exercise mutual supervision and have the right to ask questions.

By this system the want of coin in the poorest country of Europe was more than supplied, and Scotland has come to take rank among the most prosperous. Equally notable has been its effect on Scottish character. It has transformed the most rash and headstrong people of Christendom into the most thrifty and cautious. And it has effected this not on a basis of bullion reserves for redemption, for Scotland never had any large supply of coin, and seems to have no desire to acquire it. It simply monetized credit based on fixed property, and thus supplied Scotland with the instrument of exchange and of association independently of the possession of white or yellow metal. The check upon the over-issue of notes has been a fortnightly exchange of notes between the banks themselves. Of course this is in gross defiance of English ideas, and of the Bullion Report, and whenever England has touched the Scotch banks by legislation, it has been to assimilate the system by force to her own. Her last exploit was in 1844, when she forbade any further increase in the volume of Scottish paper money, and otherwise maltreated a system which had done more for Scotland than any system had done for any other country. Sweden has adopted the Scottish system as her own, with splendid results. Norway and Denmark are expected to do the same. And now the English Tories think it might do for Ireland.

It would do admirably for our South and West, and other undeveloped parts of the country. It would put an end to mortgage loans at from twelve to fifty per cent., and would supply those states with a currency based on property and credit, nearly as safe as one based on the government bonds they cannot afford to buy.

THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE STATE TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

RELIGIOUS education, as desirable, but impracticable, in public schools, is no new theme. Sufficient consideration, however, seems not to have been given to the obligations which rest on the State, in this respect. If these are imperative, the desirability may be assumed, and the impracticability ignored, to the extent of the obligation.

1st. The public schools undertake to instruct in the rudiments of Science,—i. e., the knowledge of facts and their relations, so far as they are educational, either directly by their study, or mediately as information.

The bases of religion are facts of this character,

Therefore the schools should teach these equally with other facts of the same importance.

The facts which lie at the base of all religion are, the existence of a Supreme Creative Power, and the personal responsibility of each human being to that power. Without a consciousness of these, there can be no religion in the proper sense of the word. There may be a poetic mythology, "the baseless fabric of a dream," evolved in the sleep of ages from impressions of forgotten origin; or a philosophic theory devised by the sleeper as he resumes his waking powers; or a blind fatalism; but there can be nothing standing in the same relation to conduct as, for instance, astronomical science stands to the art of navigation, or historical science to political administration; in a word, there is nothing on which to form a rule of life.

But it will be objected that the existence of God and the accountability of man are not facts, but speculations. Are they any

more speculations than the undulatory theory of light, the atomic theory in chemistry, the geological history of the earth,—or many others accepted as the basis of physical research and practical art? We must not restrict the name of fact to statements proved by any one class of evidence. The calculated angle of a triangle is as certainly known as the measured sides and angles from which it is deduced. Chemical results are equally sure whether based on evidence of sight or smell; and moral certainty is for practical purposes as valuable as physical.

I am not concerned further than this with the objection. It is enough for the present discussion that the matters in question are as generally accepted as others that are taught. Perhaps on a broad view they will appear to be more generally accepted.

But besides these, are the historical facts of religion. Some that claim to belong to this category, are already taught. Those for which I speak are, the theocratic government and the history of the Jewish nation and race, and the evolution from it, and the history, of the Christian church. These subjects belong to historical science surely as much as the mythology of Egypt and Greece, the life of Mahomet, the rise of Moslem influence in Asia, Africa, and Europe. If so, they can and should be taught to at least an equal degree.

That all these facts are educational will not be contradicted.

2nd. The State everywhere recognizes the value of the oath. The dealings of man with man, in public as well as private life; the evidence given in our courts, and the decisions based thereon affecting property and life; the taxation for the very maintenance of government—all rest on the sanction of an oath. Even the election of any public officer may depend on the oath of a single voter; and not one of them, from the lowest custom-house official to the President, can enter on his duties without binding himself by the same obligation. If an affirmation be substituted, it is only in deference to the scruples of religious, not irreligious, men, who regard it as of equal force with the oath.

And how is that obligation taken? By formal acknowledgment of a personal accountability to a Supreme Being, as to the truth of the statement made.

Can the State go further in committing itself to a belief in God, and to a human responsibility to him? If this is its position, why may it not teach these tenets in its school? Nay more, is it not bound to teach them, as necessary to the very foundations and bonds of political society?

My argument then in brief is, that the existence of God, our moral responsibility, and the historical facts of Christianity, should be taught in the public schools, because they are a part of necessary science which the schools undertake to teach; and because the State owes it to itself to insist on such a knowledge of the first two points as will make its frequent and indispensable demand for their practical application both reasonable and effective.

The immediate objection, of course, is, that all this involves sectarian difficulties. But just here we must be careful again to discriminate between the base of religion and the various forms of religion. Sectarianism begins just where this instruction stops, for sects exist only among those who are already agreed on the facts in which it is proposed to instruct. There may be, justly, opposition from those who, beginning in chaos and ending there, deny the existence of a God altogether. But it is because of these, chiefly, whether calling themselves scientists, agnostics, infidels, or Nihilists, that it is important to give this instruction. Is the State, which will not receive the evidence of this branch of its "defective classes" in its courts, which will not accept their services in any public office, bound to respect their opinions, or their ignorance, as to the teachings of its children?

Dismissing then both the objections that the teaching does not go far enough, and that it goes too far; what positive public benefit can we offer as likely to be accomplished by it? The importance of the common foundation of all religious systems will be conceded by the advocates of each. The necessity of a thoroughly grounded, axiomatic belief in God and our responsibility to him, as the safeguard of political society, may be dwelt on somewhat further in answer to the question.

It is only recently that we have realized that a large and apparently growing proportion of the people are without this belief. It is not strange, therefore, that the necessity of the instruction on which it depends, as something quite apart from special religious teaching, has not been perceived. The recent outbreaks of lawlessness, (too much dignified by the name of Anarchism), the frequent financial and social insanities, may continue and increase, so far as churches can control them, if the State as a teacher does not interfere to prevent, even while as a judge, she stands ready to punish. For all lawlessness follows, on due occasion, from ignoring God; and all regard for human law is a mere question of personal safety, where cunning will aid temptation in violation or evasion, if there be not an instinctive

reverence for Law, as such, to make obedience natural. And a state which recognizes no forms of religion, has no right to look to any of them to give that religious instruction which she requires every citizen to possess.

How shall this instruction be given? Not merely, or mainly, except so far as the historical facts are concerned, from text-books. First of all, by teachers who themselves feel, as well as know, that which they teach; who know it, strictly speaking, by heart. To these comes the aid of the present state and tendency of school studies. Not only may religion be taught as science, but science may be taught as religion. More and more of late years, science has become part of our curriculum. As the circle of knowledge widens educators have been forced from the attempt to cover its increasing area, and instead, to follow radial lines, that is, to learn and teach the relations between all sciences, and the common principles pervading them. Nothing is more distinct, in such a study, than the universality and the inviolability of law. Is it not easy and natural then for a well prepared teacher to call the pupils' attention to this, to lead them to see the Creator and the Lawgiver in his institutions, and to show the results of law infringed wherever man has interfered with the course of nature? And nowhere is this more true than in the highest of sciences, and most needful of study, psychology.

I am aware that not many years ago this article could not have been read without a smile at the writer's visionary ideas. But I think that public thought has deepened and broadened on this subject. The union of religious people in philanthropic work, the assimilation of modes of worship and of church government, though they have not removed sectarian hedges, have at least outplanted them with a less thorny growth. Religious systems, though as dogmatic as ever, do not present themselves with the dogma on the surface. They are no longer skeletons, to remind us of death, but beings of this life, with beating hearts, and flesh as well as bones. And if men of all shades of belief can unite in work for the public good in other ways, can they not cooperate in providing religious instruction for their children in that in which they are all agreed?

This foundation work cannot be left to the churches. They have enough to do in teaching those who come to them, or who are ready to receive them. Even the heathen has a notion of a Supreme Being, and respects the sanctity of a covenant made with religious rites. It is the State, the product of civilization, that must be the missionary to those whom civilization has reduced below the level of the heathen. And the churches will have not fewer, but more disciples, when the highest knowledge, and the fear of God as the beginning of wisdom, shall be fixed in the whole community through the Public School. J. S. W.

REFORMED AND PRESBYTERIAN.

WE observe that a movement has begun in the German branch of the Reformed Church—now the Reformed Church in the United States in contrast to the Reformed Church in America—toward a union of the Reformed with the Presbyterian churches of the country. There is really no reason why these bodies should remain apart. In doctrine, government, discipline and worship they are substantially at one. The only differences are that the Heidelberg Catechism of the Reformed Churches represents an earlier and less elaborate form of Calvinism than do the Westminster Confession and Catechism; and that the Reformed churches give an official sanction to liturgic worship,—which the Presbyterians do not,—but without making it obligatory. The real reason for their failure to unite is found in their national origin. The Presbyterians come of the Scottish kirk, the Reformed of the Calvinistic peoples on the continent. The former have been more affected by the forces of the Methodist revival, and have come to lay greater stress on conscious conversions. The latter have been more marked in their attachment to the catechetical system, which is equally the law of both.

From the Reformed side a union is proposed on the basis of the Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Confession, as modified by the exceptions to a few points which were taken by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, in its futile negotiations for a union with the Free Church. The Presbyterian intimates that this basis will present no difficulty to American Presbyterians, who indeed have altered the Confession on some of the points excepted to. But why not unite on the basis of an entirely new Confession, and leave Heidelberg and Westminster to the European churches who properly own them? Are our Calvinists fallen so far below their fathers that they are incapable of expressing their beliefs as clearly and as definitely as they did? The fathers of Heidelberg and of Westminster had before them a dozen confessions of faith, all as orthodox as those they were about to devise for the churches. But they took none of these. They passed by documents consecrated by the names of

Ecolampadius, Calvin and Knox, and they wrote out for themselves what they had to say. Why should their children not do the same? If the united confession of faith by a Christian church in such a document be a good social influence, it must be all the better for being a fresh rehearsal, and not a mere repetition of what was said centuries ago.

Nor can it be said that these confessions are incapable of improvement. That of Westminster, with its "elect infants" implying as a correlative "reprobate infants," its "saving graces" which do not save, its attribution of a temporal act to the eternal mind in "justification," and its other blemishes needs a good deal of change to adapt it to the actual belief of the churches which subscribe to it as a "system of doctrine." It is said that the late Dr. Charles Hodge was the only man in the church who believed its every statement, and he is dead.

As to the name of the new church, "Reformed" alone has historical right. "Presbyterian" is a mere nickname given the kirk by its Anglican critics, and adopted for fighting purposes towards the close of the seventeenth century. How would John Knox or John Calvin have relished being called a "Presbyterian?"

COVENTRY PATMORE.

SOME letters of the late Thomas Carlyle to Coventry Patmore have been made public recently. They are interesting as showing that the rough Scotchman was beyond the public generally in his appreciation of the moral delicacy of Mr. Patmore's work. It is, of course, "The Angel in the House" on which he especially bestows his praise; and certainly no nobler poem has been dedicated to the glorification of domestic affection since Spenser wrote his "Amorette," unless it be Mrs. Browning's "Sonnets from the Portuguese."

The number of poets who have been able to authenticate their love poetry as the outcome of personal experience of the passion is not a great one. Homer, Virgil, Horace, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Dryden, Pope, Byron, Shelley, Moore, Schiller, Goethe, Heine, are not of the number. It does include Dante-Petrarch, Spenser, Sidney, Shenstone, Burns, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Rückert (*Liebesfrühling*.) The Brownings and Coventry Patmore are of it. No American poet that we know of has earned a place in the list. But within this sacred succession there is a line of demarcation of great importance. The mediæval poets and Sidney describe a passion for another than the wife of the poet or his hero. By the rules of the "Courts of Love," compiled by a Pope's secretary, the poet's mistress must not be his wife, because "familiarity breeds contempt." A certain degree of distance was required for the lofty devotion which the true poet, like the true knight, should feel for his lady love. It was Spenser who first broke through the narrow and mischievous tradition, and celebrated his own wife as the mistress of his undivided affections. Something like that tradition persists in Sidney and reappears in Burns.

Mr. Patmore is in the line of the better tradition set by Spenser, the Protestant and Puritan poet. "The Angel in the House" is occupied with the most ordinary and commonplace love story that can be found in literature. A young English squire comes back after an interval of years to his ancestral acres, meets and falls in love with an old playmate, the daughter of the dean in the neighboring town. There are neither misunderstandings, nor opposition, nor effective rivalry to give any factitious interest. His love is reciprocated; her father is willing; a cousin who loves the heroine with equal passion comes too late to excite any emotion but pity. So the interest of the story is purely subjective. The poet undertakes to show us the effect of a pure and intense passion on the development of a mind not so spoilt as to be incapable of that. And he has succeeded. There is no more authentic picture of the affection of man for woman, and indirectly of the converse, in ours or any literature. He makes the reader feel the wonder, the freshness, the depth of the passion of love, as nothing else but the experience of it can.

He does not do away with its mystery. The wise man said that "the way of a man with a maid" was one of the three things he had found "too wonderful" for him. Mr. Patmore reinforces the truth of Solomon's saying. The way in which two souls, at first strange to each other, come into closer relations than either permits with anyone else in the whole world, and are given to each other for better and worse, for life and death, is an everyday mystery, which no frequency can rob of its interest, no jest can strip of its sacredness. If it be the work of a true poet to deepen our sense of the unspeakableness which lies in common things, then Mr. Patmore has discharged that function. By dramatic example and didactic gnome he has put before his readers the lofty and passionate purity of a true love, as few or none in literature have succeeded in doing. And it is only the person of blunted sympathy who can turn from his book without having received a

deeper impression of the sacredness of the commonest of human relationships. He makes us feel the truth of Henry Taylor's remark, that if we had no other evidence of the beneficence of God, the differences of man and woman would be enough.

The book has defects. Its method is perhaps too artificial to fit the substance. In that he might have taken a lesson from Rückert, the most wonderful master of the mystery of form in late literature. Again the style is uneven, and sinks at times to the level of mere prose. To some this is an unpardonable fault. Mr. E. C. Stedman seems to be one of these. Almost his only criticism of the book is a quotation of perhaps the most halting passage, in his "Victorian Poets,"—as though one should take the worst verse out of "Peter Bell" as a proof that Wordsworth was no poet, or allege the line,

"Nor fear lest dinner cool,"

to prove that John Milton knew nothing of the dignities connate to verse. But these defects are few, remediable, and independent of the merits of one of the finest of modern poems.

But the two parts of "The Angel in the House," are but the half of a cycle of poems, all occupied with the same theme and the same *dramatis personæ*. The other two are "Faithful Forever" and "The Victories of Love."

The first of these deals with a still more difficult problem than its predecessor. Here we have the story of the suitor who came too late in the former story. As is not unusual, he rushes away and marries the first pretty and sympathetic face he sees, the daughter of the chaplain of the ship of war in which he is an officer. He awakens to his mistake in discovering that in point of social and intellectual culture he is very poorly mated. His wife has been brought up in a narrow evangelicalism, and belongs to the lower middle class; her kindred drop their h's. She lectures his mother in their correspondence, and frets her husband by her *gaucheries* and her intolerance. In the hands of most writers the outcome of such a story would be easily foreseen. But Mr. Patmore is not an ordinary writer. He has a deeper faith in human affection than to believe in its being wrecked by these superficial disagreements, although he is not above English limitations in his estimate of the importance of social dividing lines. His picture of the transformation Jane undergoes is not complete, but broadly suggestive, and indicates the lines on which her genuine affection for her husband first wakens her up to a sense of her inferiority to him, and then serves to educate her up to his level. At the close he carries her on a visit to the fine house of his first love, where she astonishes the fashionable guests by her freshness, simplicity and unmistakable beauty of character, in its entire freedom from conventional restraints, and its conformity to an inward law of love. "The affections are the flower of the will," Mr. Greeley told the Free Lovers. His own life illustrated the saying, which might be taken as a motto for the title-page of "Faithful Forever."

In his last volume he gathers up all the threads of the other three, and expands his philosophy of love. He shows the influence of the study of Swedenborg's notable book, "The Delights of Wisdom concerning Conjugal Love,"—the most misunderstandable of all that seer's works. Jane dies, but not before she knows that her husband loves her to the exclusion of any preference for his first love, that her son and her old rival's daughter are to be married, and that the true love of man and wife is to be an element of the blessedness of the world to come, as well as of this.

These four volumes of poetry are not all that Mr. Patmore has written, but they seem to us to mark the culmination of his work as a poet. Two volumes of verse—"Tamerton Church Tower" and "Amelia" preceded and prophesied them. One only has succeeded them, "The Unknown Eros and other Poems." But this is marked by a change of style and method as complete as any we know of. The odes of this remarkable volume are powerful and weighted with thought. Their form is generally irregular. In some instances the old lines of thought recur. But in the main all is changed. The themes are new; the metres new; the development of the thought presents difficulties to the reader as great as in some of the worse—though not of the worst—of the puzzles Mr. Robert Browning now presents to the world.

In the interval which preceded the appearance of "The Unknown Eros," Mr. Patmore went over to the Roman Catholic Church,—a transition we should have thought extremely unlikely. The manner in which the Church of Rome exalts the celibate life as the ideal of human purity suggests that it is just in the bosom of Protestantism that Mr. Patmore's views of marriage find their natural home and their truest realization. Yet Mr. Patmore is now a Roman Catholic, and, as these later poems show, has all the fervent zeal of a new convert in the maintenance of that position. The poetic result is not to the disadvantage of Protestantism. While Aubrey De Vere has become the better poet for becoming a Catholic, since it has brought him into closer sympathy

with the natural traditions and feelings of his Irish countrymen, this cannot be asserted of either Cardinal Newman, Miss Proctor, or Mr. Patmore. Their best poetic work was done before the intellectual wrench implied in their conversion. In all the elements of poetic power Mr. Patmore seems to us to have lost rather than gained. His simplicity has given place to obscurity; his concreteness to dry abstraction; his passion in the main has lost by its direction to objects not of universal human significance. He has done no work of late years that we should place beside "The Angel in the House."

R. E. T.

REVIEWS.

TARAS BULBA. By Nikolai Vasilievitch Gogol. Translated from the Russian by Isabel F. Hapgood. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. 1886.

GERMANY, in the last half of the eighteenth century, had the glory of introducing English literature to Europe; to France, without rival, belongs the honor of having revealed Russian literature to the civilized world. Paris was long the true centre of Russian civilization, and French the mother tongue of educated Russians, so it is not strange that the language of France should be the channel by which Russian thought penetrated into Europe. Until within a year or two all translations from the Russian offered to English readers were careless reproductions of equally careless French versions. But at last an entirely competent American translator has appeared. Miss Hapgood is an accurate and accomplished Russian scholar, and her literary skill enables her to give ease and directness to her style, while her choice of words is sympathetic and graceful.

"Taras Bulba" is the first of Gogol's works that Miss Hapgood has given to the public, and the book is fortunate in its translator, for much of that same spirit breathes through it which inspired the "Epic Songs of Russia," noticed in these columns a short time ago. Taras Bulba belonged to that fierce fifteenth century, "when the whole of Southern original Russia, deserted by its native princes, was laid waste and burned to the quick by pitiless troops of Mongolian robbers . . . when the ancient peaceable Slav spirit was seized with warlike flame, and the Cossack state was instituted—a free, wild feast of Russian nature."

Gogol was peculiarly well fitted to tell this tale in the nineteenth century, for he was the grandson of one of those very Zaporog Cossacks, among whose leaders was the terrible Taras Bulba; and Gogol, when a child, listened, chilled with delightful awe, to the tales that his grandfather told, as they sat round the hearth in the old farm-house in the district of Poltava. These stories so penetrated the imagination of the gifted, susceptible child, that his classic studies at school became entirely distasteful; and indeed the exploits of Achilles might seem tame after the monstrous holocausts and gigantic revels of Cossack *hetmans*. The country round was ransacked for its tales and legends by Gogol, and they were reproduced in "Evenings at the Farm," which were received with astonishment and delight, and were greatly admired by Pushkin. Gogol received in turn several government appointments, but could keep none of them long. He returned to his native Ukraina, and again searched all the annals, written and unwritten, of the Cossack period, and then wrote Taras Bulba. Soon after followed the comedy of "The Inspector-General," which made a great stir. But before long breaking health caused Gogol to leave Russia for Italy, where he remained for many years, until his death in 1852 at the age of forty-two, after long and terrible suffering from nervous disease. During this period "Dead Souls" was written. Gogol had an intense love of Russia and the Russian nature, with its alternate dreaminess and fierceness, and this seemed to be the tone of his own mental constitution. Taras Bulba is written with great vividness and spirit, and it does indeed at times approach the Iliad in its clear direct expression, and its simple natural imagery. It is hard to believe that Gogol had not, in some well-remembered previous existence, shared in the wild riotous life of the "Setch," the headquarters of the loosely organized Cossack tribes, and ridden with his terrible hero on those fearful raids which spread horror and desolation through whole districts, when monstrous massacre and brutal plunder were the breath of the Zaporozhetz nostrils. The Cossacks were fanatical supporters of the orthodox Greek church, and with Catholic Poles on the one hand, and Mussulman Turks on the other, there was plenty of work for their restless spears.

In the beginning of Taras Bulba there is a beautiful description of the "steppe" through which the old chief leads his two young sons on their first journey to the "Setch" to learn to fight and to revel as only Cossacks can. "In the mean time the steppe had long since received them into its green embrace, and the high grass, closing round, concealed them, and only their black Cossack caps appeared among its heads. . . . The further they penetrated into the steppe the more beautiful it became. Then

all the South, and all that region which now constitutes New Russia, even to the Black Sea, was a green, virgin wilderness. No plough had ever passed over the immeasurable waves of wild growth; the horses alone, hiding themselves in it as in a forest, trod it down. Nothing in nature could be finer. The whole surface of the earth presented itself as a green-gold ocean, upon which were sprinkled millions of different flowers. Through the tall slender stems of the grass peeped light-blue, dark-blue and lilac star-thistles; the yellow broom thrust up its pyramidal head; the parasol-shaped white flower of the false flax shimmered on high. A wheat-ear, brought God knows whence, was filling out to ripen. About their slender roots ran partridges with outstretched necks. The air was filled with the notes of a thousand different birds. In the sky, immovable, hung the hawks, their wings outspread, and their eyes fixed intently on the grass. From the grass arose, with measured sweep, a gull, and bathed luxurious in blue waves of air. And now she has vanished on high, and appears only as a black dot: now she has turned her wings, and shines in the sunlight. Deuce take you, steppes, how beautiful you are!"

It is to be hoped that Taras Bulba is only a beginning, and that we shall enjoy others of Gogol's works in Miss Hapgood's trustworthy and delightful translations.

EARTHQUAKES AND OTHER EARTH MOVEMENTS. (International Scientific Series.) By John Milne, Professor of Mining and Geology in the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokio, Japan. 12mo. Pp. 348. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This volume bears throughout the marks of the most minute acquaintance with the subject-matter on the part of the author, and of great care and indefatigable research in the use of authorities, but its net result is an impression of disappointment at the unsatisfactory condition of the science. The truth is, seismology is young yet, at least as an inductive science. It will surprise nobody to hear that the all-embracing Aristotle took up the subject, and classified earthquakes into six species, but his practical contributions to the science may be safely ignored. Pliny, Seneca, and other old philosophers also helped confuse the subject by more or less ridiculous theorizing, and in almost all ages there have been writers whose attention was drawn to it by the very startling nature of its phenomena, but very few who have cast any light upon it. The Lisbon earthquake of 1755 aroused a vast amount of discussion, and caused the collection of numerous tales of earthquake horrors, remarkable enough if trustworthy. The observational literature bearing on the subject has thus grown to be a formidable mass, but of raw material only, and of course lacking in the exactness demanded by modern scientific methods. The foundation of the methodical treatment of this mass of facts and statements was laid by a French professor, Alexis Perrey, of Dijon, who about fifty years ago began to collect the best obtainable accounts of all known earthquakes for tabulation, and who has given a great impulse to the science. Mr. Robert Mallet's observations on the Neapolitan earthquake of 1857 also introduced many new methods into the study of such phenomena, and greatly stimulated research. Since then there has been no lack of scientists of ability at work on the problems of seismology, but the subject is one of the most complicated that could be imagined, entering the fields of almost every department of physical inquiry, and its difficulties have been so great as to keep the science principally in the uncertain ground of hypotheses and speculations, as yet.

The collection of paragraphs here given as bearing on the subject, swept up from every corner of space and time, is highly diverting and somewhat instructive, but probably of doubtful reliability in many cases. The Bible furnishes the first instance of an earthquake recorded,—that at the delivery of the tables on Mt. Sinai, which is given as 1606 B. C. It requires no violent imagination to regard this as probably true, but Mr. Milne would probably object to the admission as scientific evidence of Joshua's arrest of the sun's motion. And certainly we think the book would have been improved by a little more scepticism elsewhere. The earthquake wave 200 feet high is an instance in point: likewise, no doubt, the account of the drying up of the Thames at London by an earthquake. And what can we say of the scientific value of this course of reasoning which Mr. Milne borrows from Mallet?—The number of earthquakes recorded shows a rapid and regular increase from the earliest times, but as civilization has also been advancing with parallel rapidity, we are justified in assuming that the defects of the early records balance the greater amount of seismic activity recorded in modern times, and that such activity may be considered as uniform through all this period. The admission in regard to incompleteness of data is simply a confession of entire ignorance, and the basing a quantitative conclusion on such grounds is—certainly not scientific!

But the day of more exact data has come, and some conclusions can now be stated on evidence that will bear inspection.

Some of the machines for indicating and recording such observations are exquisitely ingenious, and in fact fertility of resource seems to have exhausted itself on this work. Professor Milne and his co-laborers are situated in a district possessing unsurpassed facilities for the observation of earthquakes, and the Japanese government seems to have furnished every necessary appliance for the prosecution of the work. But the unknown element is as yet master of the situation. The rate of speed, direction, force, effects, cause, place of origin, plan of emergence; connection with temperature, barometric pressure, time of day or year, geographical position, sun spots, magnetic disturbances, lunar periods, Jovian and Saturnian periods, planetary and cosmical forces generally, etc.,—all these are discussed but with meagre results. The breadth of investigation demanded, and the room for speculation must have an effect of attracting bold investigators, we should say; and great advances are doubtless to be expected. In one respect the science is well provided. Prof. Milne has furnished an ample stock of valuable formulæ which, if reliable numerical values could only be assigned their terms, would at once place the science on a firm basis. All its devotees will ardently desire such a consummation.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

IT is stated that Prof. S. H. Scudder, of Cambridge, is the author of "The Winnipeg Country," recently published anonymously. W. S. Gottsberger publishes this week "Aphrodite, a Romance of Ancient Hellas," by Ernest Eckstein, translated by Mary J. Safford. The Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., is to erect a new building adjoining its present quarters, for its exclusive occupation. W. J. Johnson, New York, will shortly issue "The Electric Motor and its Applications," by T. C. Martin and J. Wetzler.

Willard Small, New York, has just ready "The English Language, a brief Historical Sketch for the use of Literature Classes," by George H. Martin, A. M., agent of the Massachusetts Board of Education. The new edition of M. Victor Durny's "Histoire des Grecs," which Hachette, Paris, began publishing in weekly parts on May 21st, might almost be called a new work, so many and important are the improvements made in it.

"A Dictionary of Boston," modeled after Dickens's "Dictionary of London," is to be issued by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. With the August number Houghton, Mifflin & Co. resume the publication of the "Official Postal Guide." Ginn & Co. will publish, next year, "The Journal of Morphology," a periodical to be devoted principally to embryological, anatomical and histological subjects. G. P. Putnam's sons have lately added to their series of "German Classics for American Students" a fifth volume, consisting of a selection of Schiller's letters, edited by Pauline Buchheim.

Translations from the Russian novelist Dostoevsky are announced for immediate publication by T. Y. Crowell & Co. Ticknor & Co. announce a novel of Japanese life, with illustrations by Japanese artists resident in America. Its title is "A Muramasa Blade," and its author is Mr. Werther, formerly a writer on the Japanese Mail.

Miss Mary Cecil Hay, who died in England on the 24th ult., was a novelist of deserved reputation. She was equally able and industrious, and Messrs. Harper & Brothers have republished twenty or more of her stories. Among the best known of these novels are "Hidden Perils," "Nora's Love Test," and "Old Myddleton's Money," the last named being, perhaps, of all the writer put forth, the most popular and the best.

Mr. Lowell has enjoyed his visit to England this season so much that he talks of returning next Spring. Lord Chesterfield's letters to his son have been issued in a condensed form in Germany. The first part of the famous library of Sir Thomas Phillips has been sold in London. Under Americana there were arranged 263 lots, many of the books being very rare. Mrs. General Fremont, besides being of invaluable assistance to her husband in the preparation of his book, has found time to write one of her own, which is to be published in Boston.

A leading English publisher, says *The American Bookseller*, has lately declared that in an experience of over forty years he never saw such a period of depression as has existed for the last four years. Although a similar wide-sweeping statement can hardly be made respecting the American trade, yet there is no doubt that here, too, we have had a long period of depression. A certain limited class of book-buyers are no doubt so fortunately placed as not to feel mercantile depressions to such an extent as to make them abandon a favorite pursuit, or to cease to gratify their literary tastes; and books of the high—we may add, heavy—class which collectors of libraries and bibliophiles affect, have not felt the results of the continued mercantile stagnation. But

works of a more popular kind have undoubtedly been difficult of sale, even at the reduced prices which have been current. Books, as they are the first luxury many people cut off, are also the last which they resume. At present we believe the tide is on the turn. The flat, unwieldy form in which the "libraries" were published is giving way to the book form, and the countless series of volumes intended for summer reading are now issued in a shape more like that of the book than the fly-sheet or journal. The change indicates an advance in popular taste. At the same time, the cheap editions of standard works are manufactured and bound in a much better style than they were a short time ago. At present it is too early to more than guess at the fall trade, but, from all intelligence received, the indications point to a renewal of activity. Bad debts have been few, and collections fairly good, for most of the weak houses have been compelled by the stringency of the last few years to conduct their business on sound principles. The works now in preparation for the Christmas trade are of unusual merit, and advance orders have been freely given when any offering has been made.

Mr. Frederick G. Kitton, author of "Dickensiana," is completing a new work relating to Dickens, entitled, "Dickens Portrayed by Pen and Pencil."—Mr. R. C. Haldane is busy over a handbook for planters, colonists and settlers, called "Subtropical Cultivations and Climates."—Swan Sonnenschein & Co., London, will publish immediately Beroat's "Eucharistic Life of Christ," translated by E. G. Varnish, with an Introduction by Rev. Arthur Tooth.—Cornell Library has begun in its *Bulletin* a list of the series of municipal documents of American cities on its shelves. Cornell has now 62,000 volumes and 15,000 pamphlets in its library.

The publishers of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" estimate that four additional volumes will be required to complete the work. P and R have both proved long letters, and S threatens to be long also. It is believed that T and U can be brought into one volume, while the last volume can embrace V to Z and the general index. These volumes are likely to spread over two years at least, making thirteen years since the work was begun.

The delayed adjournment of Congress has interfered with the publication of Hon. Edward McPherson's "Handbook of Politics" for 1886. It is nearly ready however.—Mr. Brander Matthews' new volume of tales, "A Secret of the Sea, and Other Stories," soon to be published, will appear in London as well as in New York.—Particulars concerning the maternal ancestors of Ralph Waldo Emerson have been given by the *Literary World*, and more are promised—"Uncle Titus," from the German of Madame Spyri, by Lucy Wheelock, is in the press of D. Lothrop & Co.—The late E. P. Whipple left an unfinished Life of Governor Andrew of Massachusetts. He had worked on it for years yet it was not nearly completed. Many other important manuscripts were found among Mr. Whipple's papers.

"Thoughts," by Joseph Roux, a French parish priest, is in the press of T. Y. Crowell & Co.—The J. B. Lippincott Co. have in preparation "Three Thousand Miles through Brazil," by James W. Wells, "A Soldier's Reminiscences in Peace and War," by Gen. R. W. Johnson, "Diagnosis of Nervous Diseases" by Dr. H. C. Wood, and "The Curability of Insanity," by Dr. Pliny Earle.

The summer flittings of various popular writers are thus chronicled: Mr. R. H. Stoddard has gone to Sag Harbor; Mr. Julian Hawthorne, who lives the best part of the year at Sag Harbor, is spending his vacation in the Orange Mountains, and is reading the final proofs of two new books; Mrs. E. P. Terhune is at Pompton; Miss Alcott is at Princeton, Mass., at work on her new book; Mr. Laurence Hutton is at the Isle of Shoals; Mr. W. T. Adams (Oliver Optic) has just started for a long tour in the West; Mr. J. T. Trowbridge has just returned from California; Edward Eggleston is at his summer home at Owl's Nest, Lake George; Frank R. Stockton is at Cotuit, Mass.; R. W. Gilder, at Newport; George W. Cable, at Northampton, Mass.; Mrs. Burnett, at Boston; George William Curtis, at Ashfield, Mass.; J. D. Champlin, Jr., Tannersville, New York; W. D. Howells, at Auburndale, Mass.; Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford, at Nahant, Mass.; T. A. Janvier, Narragansett Pier; W. H. Gibson, Lake Placid, in the Adirondacks; A. S. Hardy, at Bar Harbor; Mr. E. C. Stedman, at Newcastle, N. H.; Mrs. Burton Harrison, at Lenox, and Brander Matthews, Hon. Eugene Schuyler, T. B. Aldrich, W. H. Rideing, Henry James, Harry Harland (Sidney Lusk), President Potter, and Prof. George P. Fisher are in Europe.

Olive Logan, who met Robert Louis Stevenson on shipboard, writes of him: "He is about 38 years of age, and of exceedingly delicate health. He is so slight and short of stature that he has the appearance of a youth. His costume aids this fiction. He wears a short coat, almost like an Eton boy's roundabout, and a visorless soft cap; pale, round-shouldered, and much muffled about

the throat, from whose slender column a cough frequently escapes. He married a California lady, a widow who had some name, though I forget what that name was, in local literature. She lived in Oakland, opposite San Francisco, where she owned a cottage and had a son of ten or twelve."

The papers on Gettysburg which the Comte de Paris has written are to be brought out in a volume by Messrs. Porter & Coates.—The advocates of a universal language do not diminish their exertions. An "appeal to the educated" called "Volapük," has just been issued by G. A. Gloeckner, of Constance. The Volapük system was only made known, it appears, in 1880, yet is said to have already achieved great popularity. Nearly 300 persons, we are informed, are now engaged in teaching it, and it is said to be so easy of acquirement that by means of grammar and dictionary any one can correspond in it in a week.

Some small but interesting fragments of Sallust have lately been discovered. Professor Brandt of Heidelberg while examining, in 1884, a manuscript codex in the National Library of Paris, noticed that pieces of it were palimpsests. Recently another German scholar received permission to continue the examination, and, after several months' scrutiny, deciphered a number of hitherto unknown fragments of the Roman historian, hidden under texts of Jerome. Most of them refer to Pompey the Great's warfare in Spain, including parts of a very characteristic bulletin to the Senate in Rome, and part of the debate on it in that assembly.

The mysteries of the manufacture of artistic bronze are explained in an article in the September number of *Harper's*, written by our valued contributor Mr. Theodore Child.—The September *Century* will contain a timely paper on Liszt, by Mr. A. M. Bagley, one of his pupils. The article will be accompanied by two full-page portraits of the famous musician.—The first French translation of "Daniel Deronda" is now in the press in Paris.—Mr. N. H. Dole is finishing a translation into English, which Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co. will publish, of "Marta Y Maria," a novel by the Spanish author, Valdes.—A biography of the Swiss statesman, James Fazy, who died eight years ago, will appear soon. It will contain important revelations of the financial regime with which Fazy's name is connected.

Hans Bertmann before setting out for the Heidelberg celebration left with his London publishers a volume of "Wonderful Anecdotes of Animals." It is dedicated to Lady Ralph Ker and will be illustrated by Lord Ker.—The Egyptian Book of the Dead of the 18th to the 28th Dynasty, edited by Edward Naville, will appear soon in Berlin, in two volumes. Vol. I. will contain the texts and vignettes of 212 plates, and Vol. II. will consist of 448 plates.—Dr. Wilken of Berlin will bring out in the *Transactions* of the Berlin Academy a full report on the great papyri in the British Museum, the Bodleian, at Paris, and at Berlin.

Book publishers generally agree in saying that the Sunday newspaper of the period injures the sale of works of fiction. Before the sixteen or twenty-four page Sunday paper was in fashion, there was a large sale on Saturday of light literature. Now people wait for their weekly supply of fiction until the newsboy comes round with the Sunday papers, when they generally get more than they can comfortably digest.

ART NOTES.

IN addition to his previous gifts, Mr. Joseph E. Temple sent to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts his check for the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, on Monday last. This is his second contribution to the endowment fund of one hundred thousand dollars which its friends are endeavoring to raise for the Academy. The first contribution was the sum of five thousand dollars, which, with the present gift, makes a subscription of thirty thousand dollars to this fund. There now remains to be provided a balance of twenty-three thousand to fill the subscription. It is greatly to be hoped that this sum can be promptly made up, as most of the subscriptions are conditioned on securing the entire amount.

Beside this contribution to the endowment fund Mr. Temple's gifts to the Academy have been numerous and of great value. The most important is the Temple Fund, a trust of sixty thousand dollars which he created in 1880. The income of this fund is devoted to the purchase of pictures or other works by American artists exhibited at the Academy, to the awarding of medals at the exhibitions, and to the general uses of the Academy. He has also given three thousand dollars for special prizes, and has from time to time purchased for the Academy costly pictures by the most distinguished American artists.

Ephraim Keyser's bronze statue of Baron De Kalb was unveiled on Monday last at Annapolis—not Baltimore, as several of

the daily papers have it. The figure is of heroic proportions, nine feet high, and is mounted on a pedestal of granite thirteen feet high. The hero is represented in the uniform of a Major-General of the Continental Army, and stands in a spirited pose as if commanding a charge of infantry. Mr. Keyser received his commission for this work from Secretary of State Frelinghuysen, and on Monday delivered the statue formally to Secretary of State Bayard, who received it for the United States government. Secretary Bayard made an address on the occasion which was the leading feature of the installation ceremonies. The monument bears an inscription to the memory of De Kalb which was composed by the Congressional committee formulating the resolution to erect the memorial, 105 years ago.

It is proposed to hold an exhibition during the winter of the contributions to the Art Department of the American Exhibition in London. This exhibition will be held, if at all, in New York, where the contributions are to be sent for shipment. It is thought that this will make a double inducement to the artists to forward examples of their best work, affording them an opportunity to make a creditable display both at home and abroad. Mr. John Sartain has charge of the Art Department of the London Exposition, and Mr. Albert Bierstadt, of New York, is also connected with its management. It is understood that circulars will presently be issued giving official information respecting these matters.

On Monday next, 23d inst., the "art-season," as we are told, opens in Minneapolis, the Industrial Exposition which will be inaugurated there on that day having an art gallery in which the first collection of pictures made since last spring will be shown. This collection includes 800 works by American artists, besides over 200 secured in Germany by an agent sent to Munich for that purpose. The circulars issued by the exposition authorities state in effect that they have the finest galleries for the display of pictures in the country; also that they are to have the finest lot of pictures in the country; that they have secured a collection of casts "comprising 236 examples of the work of great Greek and Roman sculptors," which is not only the finest in the country but is second to none in Europe. Much of this sort of talk is mere "bounce," of course. There are, for example, several collections of casts in Eastern cities more important and larger than the "236 examples," noticeably in Boston and in Philadelphia, and there is one at least in Europe that must be nearly ten times as large. But, all the same, Minneapolis is showing a creditable interest in art, and is to be congratulated on the possession of a good collection of antiques.

Sir John Millais and Sir Frederick Leighton have been made members of the Berlin Academy, an honor rarely accorded to any but German artists.

The Russian Government has established an art academy at Rome for the instruction of promising students in the arts of painting and sculpture. The Grand Duke Vladimir, President of the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts, has taken the initiative in this design. The Villa Patrizi has been chosen as the seat of this academy, and M. Bugolubof, the Russian painter, well-known at Paris, has been appointed its director.

London papers again announce that Mr. J. McNeil Whistler will make an American tour next autumn, and give his "Ten O'Clock" under the management of Mr. D'Oyly Carte. Mr. Whistler is now at work on a new portfolio of etchings which will be brought out in time to aid his lecture season—the lectures also helping the sale of the etchings.

A photographic exhibition has recently been held in Glasgow, in which the art was fully represented from the first attempts of Wedgwood and Daguerre down to the latest developments.

Leonardo da Vinci, the great Italian painter, left a book of autographic sketches and manuscripts. This valuable volume has been preserved under the name of the *Codice Atlantico*, at the Biblioteca Ambrosiana at Milan. It has not been published, but the Italian Government has now decided to issue it through the Accademia dei Lincei at Rome. The sum of 100,000 lire is allotted to defray the expenses. It will be a work of the highest interest.

A gentleman of Concord, N. H., is the discoverer in Brussels of a painting claimed to be an original Rubens. The picture is without a frame, eighteen inches high by fifteen wide, and represents the visit of Rubens to the cell of a monk. The view of the monk is full face, and upon him is represented a full effect of sunlight coming in from the window of the cell. The monk holds a drinking flask and goblet, apparently about to offer refreshment to his guest. The face and figure of the artist are in the profile and in the shade of the picture. At first glance no name or date can be seen, but a close inspection shows in black paint at the bottom of

the canvas the words, slightly raised: "Pinxit 1621, Rubens aut." The portrait of Rubens himself is unique. The painting was bought from private hands, and has been pronounced genuine by connoisseurs.

SCIENCE NOTES.

IN an address delivered to the British Medical Association, Dr. John S. Billings, Surgeon U. S. Army, exhibited the comparative mortality in this country from consumption, cancer, pneumonia and malarial fever by four shaded charts, representing the comparative number of deaths by the darkness of the shading. The malarial fever chart showed a pretty close following of the elevation of the ground by the lines dividing the districts, the districts of almost complete exemption being those of the two main mountain ranges of the country, while conversely the districts of the greatest death-rate clustered round the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi river valley. The charts of consumption and cancer almost exactly reversed this, showing the most deeply shaded portions in the Middle and New England states, while the Gulf states exhibit almost complete immunity. The Rocky Mountains however, do not show this reversal of the situation, as they are likewise remarkably free from these diseases, with the single exception of the western end of Colorado, which shows quite a high mortality from consumption. As this district is largely used as a sanitarium by eastern consumptives, imported deaths probably swell the record. The pneumonia chart shows also a similar dark area in Western Colorado, probably due to similar causes, but the deaths from this disease show no sectional uniformity as do those from the other three, and are distributed apparently at haphazard in small areas no doubt due to local causes. Dr. Billings assigns the greater number of deaths from cancer in the New England states to the general greater longevity of that section, as cancer is a disease the liability to which increases greatly with advancing years. As compared with other nations the United States stands second in healthfulness, being surpassed only by Sweden in smallness of death-rate.

Another engineering scheme of first-class magnitude is abroad in Britain, in the shape of a proposal to tunnel the Irish Channel, or rather that extension of it known as the North Channel, at the narrowest point, and utilize the direct rail connection thus secured to shorten the time now taken by the Dublin and Holyhead mail steamers. The nearest approach of the land on the opposite sides of the Channel is from Donaghadee, situated on the cape on the south of Belfast Lough, to Port Patrick on the opposite Scotch shore,—not quite twenty miles. This tunnel would, it is claimed, make the all-rail distance from Belfast to London only four hundred and twenty-five miles, or, say, eleven hours. The Allan Line steamers now touch at Moville, on the north coast of Ireland, about an hour by rail from Belfast, and mail or passengers could be forwarded from this point much quicker from this point than by the mixed rail and steam route from Queenstown. The sticking-point will probably be in the financial considerations. It is estimated that some \$30,000,000 will be needed, and it is hard to see how the interest on this sum can be paid from the profits which are likely to accrue from such a slight saving of time as would result from the carrying out of this project.

Lieutenant Zalinski, of the Fifth Artillery, who has been experimenting with dynamite at Fort Lafayette for the past eighteen months, is reported to be delighted with the results he has attained with his eight-inch pneumatic dynamite gun. He has fired over 200 charges in all, and over 100 cartridges loaded with dynamite from ten to 100 pounds, without a single accident. The experiments lately made in the Lower Bay before Secretary Whitney's Naval Board, consisting of Commanders Howell, Goodrich and Bradford, have excited much discussion in army and navy circles, and promise to awaken active interest in the application of dynamite to coast defence. The friends of the gun claim that, smooth bore as it is, it has practically overcome all the difficulties which were supposed to lie in its way—namely, accuracy of fire, rapidity and safety. The gun is discharged by compressed air, thus insuring uniform pressure and consequently greater accuracy of fire than in the usual powder charges of the rifled gun, the latter becoming overheated after many discharges, while the pneumatic gun can discharge a hundred-pound charge of dynamite every minute all day long without the slightest expansion or the necessity for swabbing. As a testimony in favor of the results of these experiments it is said that designs have been drawn by the naval authorities for the construction of a cruiser 200 feet long, with a speed of twenty knots an hour, carrying two or more ten-and-a-half-inch dynamite guns, with a slinging capacity of 200 pounds of dynamite. The ship is to be long, low and sharp, with a ram extension. She will carry two funnels, one forward and the other aft of a turret, whose purpose is not made known. The

dynamite guns are concealed under a thick sheathing of armor forward. When ready for use the armor slides down the sides, the gun is discharged, and is then protected again by the armor during the time of reloading.

Mr. V. C. Vaughan, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, has been experimenting on samples of the poisoned ice-cream which has been cutting such a figure in the newspaper reports lately, and writes thus to *Science* on the subject: "Mineral poisons, copper, lead, arsenic, and mercury, have all been found in ice cream. In some instances these have been used with criminal intent. In other cases their presence has been accidental. That vanilla is sometimes the bearer, at least, of the poison, is well known to all chemists. Dr. Bartley's idea that the poisonous properties of the cream which he examined were due to putrid gelatine is certainly a rational theory. The poisonous principle might in this case arise from the decomposition of the gelatine; or with the gelatine there may be introduced into the milk a ferment, by the growth of which a poison is produced. But in the cream which I examined, none of the above sources of the poisoning existed. There were no mineral poisons present. No gelatine of any kind had been used in making the cream. The vanilla used was shown to be not poisonous. This showing was made, not by a chemical analysis, which might not have been conclusive, but Mr. Novie and I drank of the vanilla extract which was used, and no ill results followed. Still, from the cream we isolated the same poison which I had before found in poisonous cheese, and demonstrated its poisonous properties by experimenting upon cats. Moreover, by adding a piece of the solid portion of the poisonous cream, about the size of a filbert, to some normal milk, and making cream with this milk, following the details of the maker of the Lawton cream, omitting, however, all flavoring, I obtained a highly poisonous cream. Does this not prove that the poison may be produced by fermentation in good milk?"

The semi-annual statistical statement of the American Iron and Steel Association shows an unprecedented activity in both of these industries. During the first six months of the year, the product of pig iron amounted to 2,954,209 tons of 2,000 pounds. In a similar period of time, the country has never before produced such a large amount of pig iron. Prior to 1879, indeed, the output for the whole year never reached these figures. During the first half of 1885, the product was 2,150,816 net tons, and during the latter half 2,379,053 net tons. The statistics of steel production show a similar activity. During the six months just past, the production of Bessemer ingots reached 1,073,663 net tons, against 938,418 tons in the second half of 1885, and 763,344 tons in the first half of that year. These figures include also the Clapp-Griffiths metal, of which 24,810 net tons have been produced during the present half year. The product of Bessemer steel rails during this period has been 707,447 net tons, an increase over last year, but less in proportion than during 1882. The most noticeable feature of this half year's increase in Pennsylvania is the lead taken by the Lehigh Valley district. For some time this has been second only to Allegheny county in its pig iron production, but this year it has exceeded it, having produced 320,568 net tons in six months, against 301,014 tons in Allegheny county. The output of pig iron in either of these districts is greater than in any other State in the Union except Ohio.

The Life-Saving Service makes a highly creditable annual report. There were 256 disasters to documented vessels during the year within the field of station operations. There were on board these vessels 2,206 persons, of whom 2,196 were saved, and only 10 lost. The estimated value of the vessels was \$3,519,550, and that of their cargoes, \$1,084,905, making the total value of property involved \$4,604,455. Of this amount, \$3,352,760 was saved, and \$1,251,695 lost. The number of disasters involving the total loss of the vessels was 56. Besides the foregoing, there were 115 disasters to smaller crafts, from which 231 persons were saved, with the loss of only one life. The total loss of life was the smallest ever reached by the service, except in the year 1880, when but nine persons were lost. During the fourteen years' existence of the present service the total value of property saved has amounted to over \$35,000,000, and there have been over 25,000 persons saved, with only 457 lost out of all those endangered. The entire number of stations in operation during the past year was 203, of which 157 are on the Atlantic coast, 38 on the lakes, and seven on the Pacific coast, with one on the Ohio River at Louisville, Ky. The entire expense for the support of these stations during the year was less than \$800,000,—not one-fourth as much as the value of the actual property saved.

Mr. W. M. Davis has recently given in the *American Meteorological Journal* an account of the derivation of the term "trade-wind." The original meaning of the word "trade" has been so far replaced by an acquired meaning, that a popular error has arisen as to the derivation of the common term, "trade-wind." Webster's

dictionary says the trade-wind is "so called because of great advantage to navigators, and hence to trade." Worcester's dictionary explains it as "so called because favorable to commerce." But looking further back, the following extract from Skeat's etymological dictionary is instructive: "Trade-wind, a wind blowing in a constant direction, formed from the phrase, 'to blow trade,' to blow always in the same course." A step further discovers that trade is "properly that path which we 'tread.' . . . It once meant, literally, a 'path.' . . . The Middle English words are 'tread' and 'trod,' both in the sense of foot-mark: all from the Anglo-Saxon 'treadan,' to tread." The following extracts show the early use of the term, two or three centuries ago, by the navigators of that time: Hakluyt wrote, "The wind blowing trade, without an inch of sail, we spooned before the sea." Dampier said, "Trade-winds are such as do blow constantly from one point or quarter of the compass. There are divers sorts of these winds; some blowing from east to west, some from south to north, others from west to east, etc. Some are constant in one quarter all the year; some blow one-half the year one way, and the other six months quite contrary; and others blow six months one way, and then shifting only eight or ten points, continue six months more, and then return again to their former stations, as all these shifting trade-winds do."

THE DEFENCE OF THE SEA-COAST.

(Remarks of Senator Hawley of Connecticut, in the U. S. Senate, on the last day of the Session.)

MR. HAWLEY.—Mr. President, the substance of all this is that the fortification bill for the year fails. There being nothing pressing before the Senate at this moment, and this being a subject, in my opinion, of very great importance, I desire to say a few words about it.

For many years we have done nothing toward the fortifications along the coast, except to cut grass and occasionally to put up a brick that has fallen down or clear out a ditch. For many years nothing has been given toward the renewal of the old works or to build substantial new ones.

The bill came here this year from the House giving "for the protection, preservation, and repair of fortifications and other works of defense, for which there had been no special appropriation available," (there being no such other works), \$100,000; the sum "to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War." That is the old standard appropriation under which they painted a fence, cleaned a ditch, cut down a little grass, and put some black paint upon some honey-combed old gun along the fortifications and on top of some of our great works around our great harbors—notably I remember Fort Columbus, in New York harbor, where stand clumsy, old, useless iron guns, which they dare not fire upon the ramparts lest they shake the walls down.

The best of the forts have an eight foot wall of granite, thinning down to five feet, through three of which walls the modern rifle will send its projectile. Some people think we can rely upon a sand bank. The largest steel rifles made will send their projectiles of 1,200 to 1,500 pounds through seventy feet of sand.

The upshot of it is that we are absolutely defenseless, so far as coast defenses are concerned, against modern ships of war, which can have their own sweet will sailing through the entrances of our great harbors. By carefully compiled statistics they may safely anchor at Portland, Boston, New York, San Francisco, and other great cities under the reach of our guns with property to the amount of \$4,500,000,000, these figures being taken from the official returns of taxable property in those cities.

I need not discuss the condition of our navy. We are not quite so badly off there because we have a few respectable ships of the third, fourth, or fifth class, and we have an excellent body of officers, and we have as many as the great number of about thirty steel guns very nearly done for the armament of the navy, a large majority of which are of the smallest size known in the use of the army.

Mr. Edmunds—That is not one gun for a state.

Mr. Hawley—It is not one gun for a state. A 6-inch steel gun carries a 100-pound projectile, and in the Washington navy-yard we are finishing up about thirty guns, the majority of them of the smaller size. The work, though it is of limited extent, has been admirably done; but the heavy, rough-forged parts of the 8 and 10 inch guns have been bought abroad, and we are absolutely dependent upon the mercy of foreign contractors for any guns we may make of the larger size.

We have certain naval vessels nearly or quite complete. Proposals are about to be issued for the construction of several more. A bill has just passed both Houses providing for two fine armored cruisers and another lighter one, and also for completing the armament of the monitors. Several thousand tons of armor (not armament) are called for by these various vessels, a large quantity of heavy ordnance for the arming of them, and we have forbidden, in the bill for the increase of the navy, the purchase of these articles abroad. But in the mean time there is not a manufacturing establishment in the United States that can make them, nor is there one that will contract to make them under the ordinary terms of an appropriation bill, because no wise manufacturer would put in a new plant costing \$600,000 or a million dollars or more to build these guns depending upon an annual appropriation by Congress. No sensible man would do it; no man ought to do it.

We are building a few large guns by the leave of foreign countries, which can be forbidden in a moment by their own governments refusing to let us have those rough parts. But it is an essential element in national defense that we shall be able to make our own weapons of defense. The army has not one single high-power modern gun. It has some very nice little field-pieces of steel; it has a large number of old 15-inch and 10-inch guns, etc.; old cast-iron guns admirable in their time, and it has about two

hundred 10-inch Columbiads altered down to 8-inch rifles, which cannot take a heavy charge of powder, and are only useful for perhaps a thousand yards against vessels of the third or fourth class.

What then shall be done? Everybody says it is a matter of very great importance; everybody says we are helpless. There are several ways of beginning to do this work. One is that the government shall build its own great forging factories. That is not economical. That is not what the government ought to undertake. Another plan is that the government shall go into partnership with certain private manufacturers in the manufacture of a complete gun. That has been tried and has been a failure, economically and otherwise—a failure under foreign governments.

Another plan is to divide the work, that each may be a check upon the other, and that the larger and coarser and heavier work which can be done in private establishments shall be given out by contract, reserving to the government the fine work of finishing, so that we may have some shops to depend upon ourselves, and that we may not require of private manufacturers so heavy a plant.

The amendments which the Senate put on the fortification bill were in accordance with the experience of every European nation that has done anything, and they have all done a great deal in this direction, and in accordance with the recommendations of board after board that has been appointed upon this and kindred questions for a series of years past, all of which has been considered and summed up by your committee on coast defenses and your select committee on ordnance and war ships; so that when a person refuses the proposition the Senate put upon the bill without offering any substitute for it, he simply declares that, no matter how defenseless or unprotected the country may be, we will do absolutely nothing.

The bill as passed by the House made a pretense of doing something in this direction:

For the armament of seacoast fortifications, including the procurement of steel forgings for the manufacture of heavy guns; for guns, carriages, projectiles, fuses, powder, implements and materials for which shall all be of American production, their trial and proof, and the testing of improvements of the same, and all necessary expenses incident thereto, \$500,000, to be available until expended.

We have gone on wasting a similar sum for a series of years. For "the procurement of steel forgings, for the manufacture of heavy guns," the "materials for which shall all be of American production." Those who drew and who were instrumental in passing that bill knew perfectly well that it was a farce, because those heavy parts cannot be made in the United States and we have been buying them abroad. The only practical step toward getting them made in America, which the Senate put in the bill, we understand is absolutely and positively rejected. It is demanded that the whole bill shall fail unless it can be passed in that shape, which is absurd, and known to be so, a mere pretense for an election campaign or for some other purpose, I do not know what.

The only practical provision in the bill as passed by the House was one to keep the old forts swept at a cost of \$100,000, and \$20,000 for torpedo experiments and for practical instruction; and yet we are told by the chairman of the committee on appropriations that if the Morrison resolution shall become a law, which of course is exceedingly doubtful, there will be substantially anyhow, \$100,000,000 applicable to the reduction of the bonded debt of the United States. The Republican administration in its closing months saved up its revenue and did not purchase bonds. The new Democratic administration for about nine months followed a similar course, until we have a very large surplus in the treasury.

Whether the Morrison resolution shall pass or not, without any doubt there will be a very considerable reduction in the debt. We are embarrassed by our riches; we are burdened by the superabundance of our revenue, and a new party, or an old party rather, has come into power without a very definite policy upon matters of national concern, not agreed concerning the tariff, and indeed if agreed upon anything I am unable to recall it at this identical moment. It is a party in search of a war cry, a party that will be glad to command the enthusiastic support of the American people if it has an opportunity. The Republicans of the Senate, and I am bound to say that the majority at least of the Democratic Senators, are willing to offer to men who assume to lead the party an opportunity to make a reputation, an opportunity to command popular support and respect and enthusiasm, an opportunity to adopt a really national and broad and strong policy in some respects. What are they at, I wonder? What do they mean when they seek to keep down an appropriation bill by rejecting items of this sort? Do they make any sensible appeal to the groundlings in behalf of real economy? We advise, I advise, everybody advises who stops to think—the very able man who is now waiting for his grave was one of the strongest to advise—that among matters of great national concern which commanded the support of the people unanimously was this matter of defense—coast defense and naval defense. I believe that nothing more acceptable to the American people could have been done, and yet I doubt very much whether the House of Representatives (I may say that much) will be allowed to even take a vote upon the question—by some singular combinations of reasons.

The bill as amended by the Senate devoted \$6,000,000 to beginning the work of making heavy guns. In addition to that is the work, which must be begun by and by, of building new forts on a new plan along the coast, iron turrets, or defenses covered by sloping and curved armor, and numerous buildings, erections, and contrivances which are absolutely indispensable toward defense, etc., but these things are largely omitted. Nothing is being done for armor. The new ships can not be armored by American products, and yet the Secretary of the Navy is forbidden to buy any other. The revised bill provided for \$6,000,000 that there might be a contract made for not to exceed 10,000 tons of rough-bored, rough turned, and tempered forged steel suitable for heavy guns, in such lots and of such descriptions as the Secretary of War might agree upon, the money to be available for six years.

Not one dollar of that would be expended during the next year or year and a half, but if that should stand as a law giving out from nothing to a million and a half or two millions a year during the next six years there are several great establishments in the United States which would very gladly make the necessary plant at a cost of from six hundred thousand to a million and a half dollars. They will not do it depending upon annual ap-

propriations; it is perfectly well known by the unanimous testimony of all, and I say every sensible business man knows it. If we make that contract we shall have at least one or two or three hundred guns, depending upon the size, of the smaller ones more, of the larger ones less, within four or five years; but, what is of more consequence, we shall have within our own borders the possibility of arming ourselves, which we have not now. I say the universal judgment of all men of military and other experience abroad, of all manufacturers at home, demands some such process of legislation as this, and yet we are absolutely refused the very first step in it. The Democratic party has missed an opportunity to commend itself to the respect and enthusiastic support of the American people by doing what is really a great national and indispensable work.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

LECTURES IN THE TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR KINDERGARTNERS. By Elizabeth P. Peabody. Pp. 226. \$1.00. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.

SHORT STUDIES IN ENGLISH. Illustrated. Pp. 220. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

THE PHANTOM CITY. A Volcanic Romance. By William Westall. Pp. 288. \$— New York: Cassell & Co.

WANTED. A SENSATION. A Saratoga Incident. By Edward S. Van Zile. (Cassell's "Rainbow Series.") Pp. 173. \$0.25. New York: Cassell & Co.

CHERIE'S ANSWERED PRAYER. A Story of Southern France. By Margaret E. Winslow. Pp. 285. \$1.00. Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.

DRIFT.

—A Paris letter says. A controversy is now going on in the scientific world on the conditions under which genius is produced. Senator Naquet and Doctors Marechal, Jacopy and Bull say that it is a neurotic and that most great men have had mad or epileptic ancestors or descendants or been themselves attacked with epilepsy or been in some respects on the very brink of lunacy. Caesar and Peter the Great had falling sickness. Napoleon was subject to long fits of fainting that resembled catalepsy. Newton had also a disordered nervous system. Byron's mother was a raging, irresponsible termagant, and father no better. Isabella the Catholic, who was certainly a woman of genius, had a mad uncle, a mad brother, and mad daughter, the ancestor of all the Spanish and Austrian Hapsburgs. Her (Isabella's) grandson, Charles V., also a man of prodigious political genius, was epileptic and the progenitor of a line which ended in idiocy. Pascal had fits and hallucinations. Luther also had the latter and thought he saw the devil in person coming to tempt him. William the Conqueror was the son of Robert the Devil, who must have had, to judge from the legend which has been handed down, a nervous system that ran riot. According to the new theory genius, like the orchard pear or apple tree, or the double rose, or dahlia, is abnormal, and except in an intellectual sense sterile. Thus Dante (a hypochondriac), Michael Angelo, Raphael, Shakespeare, Cowper, Wordsworth, Byron, Scott and De Quincey either left no posterity or families that soon died out. That of Victor Hugo is not apparently destined to live long. Victor Hugo had, on the maternal side, a mad uncle and mad cousins. His brother Eugene died in a madhouse, and his only surviving daughter, Adele, has been for years in confinement.

—Dr. Kimball, Director of the Mint, has completed his report on the production of gold and silver in the United States during 1885. The production of gold is estimated at \$31,800,000, an increase of \$1,000,000 on the estimate for the calendar year 1884. The production of silver for the calendar year 1885, calculated at the coining rate in silver dollars, is estimated at \$51,000,000, against \$48,800,000 in 1884. The coinage executed during the calendar year at the coining mints consisted of 47,544,521 pieces, of the face value of \$56,926,810. Of this amount, 3,002,313 pieces, valued at \$27,773,012, consisted of gold coin, and 31,925,544 pieces, valued at \$28,962,176, of silver coin, the remainder minor coin. The number of silver dollars coined during the calendar year 1885 was 28,697,767. The director estimates the amount of gold coin in the United States on January 1, 1886, to have been \$533,485,453; of silver dollars, \$218,249,761; subsidiary silver, \$75,034,111; or a total stock of coin of \$826,779,325.

—THE SALT MINES OF NEVADA.—In Lincoln county, Nevada, on the Rio Virgin, there is a deposit of pure rock salt which is exposed for a length of two miles, and a width of half a mile, and is of unknown depth. In places canons are cut through it to a depth of 60 feet. It is of ancient formation, being covered in some places by basaltic rock and volcanic tufa. The deposit has been traced on the surface for a distance of nine miles. It is so solid that it must be blasted like a rock, and so pure and transparent that print can be read through blocks of it a foot thick. At Sand Springs, Churchill county, there is a deposit of rock salt 15 feet in depth, free from any particle of foreign substance, which can be quarried at the rate of five tons a day to the man. The great Humboldt salt field is about fifteen miles long by six wide.—*San Francisco Bulletin*.

—In Nevada there is a peculiar wood known as "mountain mahogany." A tree with a trunk a foot in diameter is much above the average. When dry the wood is about as hard as boxwood, and being of a very fine grain, might no doubt be used for the same purpose. It is of a rich, red color, very heavy, and would be a fine material for the wood carver. Used as a fuel, it creates intense heat. It burns with a blaze as long as ordinary wood would last, and then is found (almost unchanged in form) converted to a charcoal that lasts about twice as long as ordinary wood. For fuel it stands much higher than any other kind of wood; indeed, a cord of it always brings the same price as a ton of coal. The only objection to it as a fuel is that it creates such an intense heat as to burn out stoves more rapidly than coal, however bad.—*Industrial World*.

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